

Amendments To The Specification:

Please insert the following at page 8, line 25:

Brief Description of the Drawings:

Fig. 1 is a SEM picture of SiO₂ particles with a torus structure;

Fig. 2 is a SEM picture showing the torus structure after thermal condensation; and

Fig. 3 is a SEM picture after curing at higher temperatures with filler agglomerates.